

Issue 8
only 50p!

DBA News



**Dashwood
Banbury
Academy**



All the Dashwood
news from us - the
pupils!

Issue 8 – December 2023

What's been happening at Dashwood in Term 2?



Remembrance Day respect



Spot-acular Children in Need Cake Sale and Spotty Dress-Up Day



Odd Socks and Shout Out Against Bullying

Inspiration from pupils past and present



Care for Care Homes - Knit and Natter



Sharing pupil interests



Welcome to Issue 8 of the DBA News!

A note from the Lead Editor - Amber Hardcastle

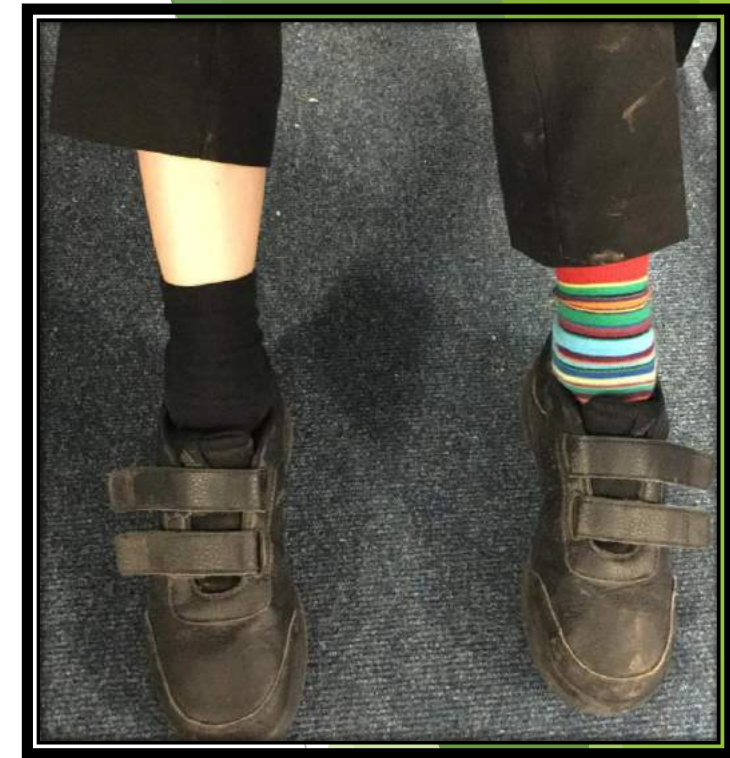
I have the read the last issue and WOW! How great! The reporter team are great this year and work so hard for the newspaper. They work really hard to bring all of the stories together. I can't wait to read the next issue!

We hope that you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoy writing it!



Odd Sock Day - Anti-bullying Week 2023

The theme of the Anti-bullying Week was **'Make a noise about bullying'** and just like our Cultural Day in October, we could wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique and different! It was wonderful to see so many different socks!



Children In Need

Thank you to our Dashwood community for supporting the Children In Need appeal. We had so many delicious cake donations which raised a phenomenal £266 for the charity. Thank you so much to you all!

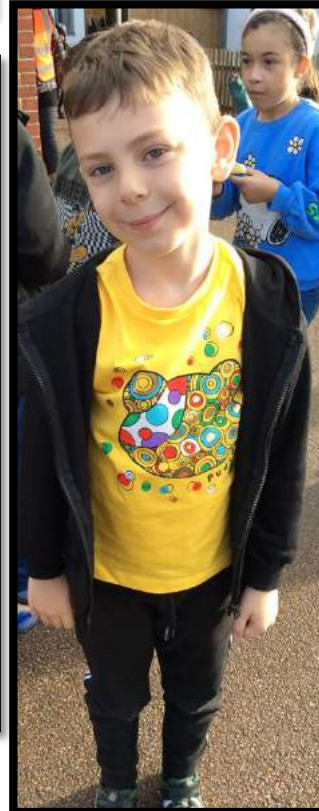


Some of the wonderful bakes donated!

Thank you to our Head Pupils and Aspiration Family Leads for helping to sell cakes!



Well done to all of the 'spot'acular pupils too!



Remembrance

As we do every year, our Head Pupils represented Dashwood at the Remembrance service at St Mary's Church and laid a wreath by the memorial in People's Park. Grace, Noah, Elena and Eric represented Dashwood with respect and were super role models.

Eric: *'It made me feel very responsible and gave me a sense of accomplishment to be part of the parade for Remembrance. We saw lots of interesting people and communities.'*

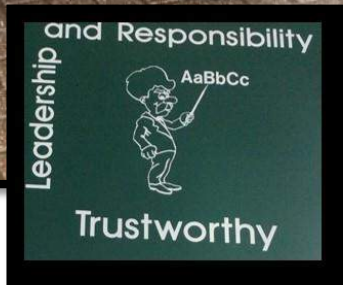
Elena: *'I enjoyed listening to The Mayor when he was talking and also walking with the army people who were playing their instruments.'*

Grace: *'I enjoyed meeting the Navy and The Cadets. I shook hands with them. I laid a poppy wreath which gave me a sense of accomplishment and I felt proud.'*

Noah: *'I really enjoyed taking part in the parade and laying the wreath. I felt proud to take part in this important event.'*

Noah, Eric, Grace, Elena





It was lovely to see some familiar faces at the Remembrance Parade from the Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and St. John's Ambulance as well as so many members of our community.

Lucy Greatbatch, Year 5, was there with her Mum and sister, Abbi, who have all been involved in the Girl Guiding group for many years. Abbi, Lucy's older sister, who used to attend Dashwood, was interviewed by her younger sister about her experiences in Girl Guiding.

Who are you and what do you do?

I am Abbi, I am 17, I used to be a pupil at Dashwood and I am now a leader at 1st Grimsbury Brownies and Rainbows.

When did you join Girlguiding?

I joined Girlguiding when I was 5 as a rainbow at 1st Grimsbury Rainbows.

What was your favourite activity you did when you were a rainbow?

When we joined with other rainbow units in Banbury and we did a who day of activities all about butterflies.

What was the best thing you did at Brownies?

When we camped at Cornbury in a big tent with other Brownies from around Oxfordshire to celebrate Brownies being 100 years old. We did lots of activities and earned special badges.

Why did you want to become a Girlguiding leader?

I really enjoy leading lots of fun activities such as crafts, games, cooking and campfires. It's amazing to see the girls grow in confidence and achieve loads of different awards and badges.

What's your favourite thing about being a rainbow leader?

Watching the girls try new skills and especially when they do something they didn't think they could.

What's the best activity when you have run as a brownie leader?

When we took all the on pack holiday. We all stayed two nights at our county base near Oxford and we did lots of activities all based on Roald Dahl books.

What's your favourite Girlguiding memory ever?

I absolutely loved it when me and my guide unit walked up the Eiffel tower and I did my leaders promise. Also, when I got my guide gold award at Our Chalet in Switzerland, which is a Girlguiding world centre.

I LOVE BEING PART OF GIRLGUIDING AND HELPING YOUNGER CHILDREN DEVELOPE AND DO THING THEY THOUGHT THEY COULDN'T DO!!!

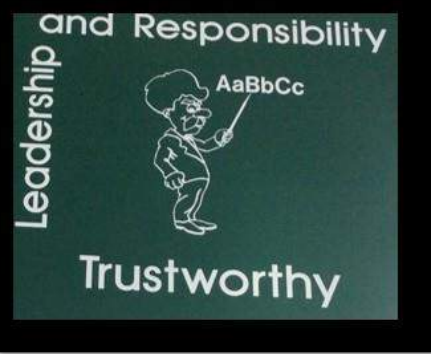
FROM:

LUCY GREATBATCH

Charlotte, Lucy and Hanna from Year 5 marched with their Brownies group in the Remembrance Parade.



Louisa is Rosie in Year 6's older sister and an ex-pupil at Dashwood! Louisa kindly told us why she has devoted so many years to being a St John's Cadet...



I've been in St John's for four years now. I've been inspired to carry on with St John's because it has helped me progress to pursue my dream job of becoming a nurse.

My youth leaders and the team think highly of all of the Cadets and each other, as we all want to go into the medical industry. When we're out on events, it really boosts my confidence as I have to talk to new patients and give them treatment, this makes me step out of my comfort zone. When I'm in my uniform I feel confident, grown up and part of a team.

I've recently been promoted to acting corporal, which again has made me step out of my comfort zone. I also now get to help out with Badgers. I love helping with the younger children, so anyone under the age of 11, and I would highly recommend that if any students at school want to, or are thinking about wanting to go into a medical career, then they should join St John's, as you make life long friends along the way and are doing something you enjoy, having fun and learning a skill at the same time.

I have really enjoyed my time at St John's and hope to carry on into adults when I turn 18 so I can carry on supporting the community. St John's Ambulance unit is like my second family!



Rosie, Year 6, with her sister Louisa, who used to attend Dashwood!

My experience as the flag bearer for Remembrance Day Parade

By- Nathan Koshy

Year 5 (Beech)



Nathan Koshy
(Year 5) shares
his
Remembrance
Day Parade
experiences

The Remembrance Day Parade and Service was held on Sunday 12th November 2023 at 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Commencing with the town parade, followed by a service at St.Mary's Church, before the wreath laying ceremony at the war memorial in People's Park.

I feel extremely privileged to have had the honour of being the flag bearer, representing 6th Banbury Scout (Cubs) group.

The procession had over 450 military personnel, cadets, veterans, local organisations, and civic dignitaries marching through the town centre.

In the past few years, I have witnessed the event as a spectator or on TV but the opportunity to be a part of the event and a chance to pay tribute felt extraordinary.

It was an absolute delight to exchange smiles with familiar faces (friends, teachers, neighbours), all sharing the spirit of community and gratitude.

I am committed to continue to offer my respect and services to this esteemed event and hope to see you all there next year.

Thank You!

Heroes



Respectful

Every pupil in school had a part in creating a poppy for our beautiful display at the top of the main corridor as a symbol of remembrance and our hope at Dashwood for a peaceful future for our world.

Thank you to all of our Dashwood pupils and their families for supporting this year's Poppy Appeal - we raised £369.09 which is a phenomenal amount to support charities that go directly towards helping the Armed Forces community. Wearing a poppy is a show of support for the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces, veterans and their families.



Our beautiful
Dashwood poppy
displays

Supporting our Community

Our Dashwood Head Pupils were the first of our pupil leadership groups to volunteer at the Banbury Community Fridge at our Merton Street Mosque - **Banbury Madni Masjid**. We learned how to restock the fridges and serve visitors when they came. As a school, Dashwood are volunteering for one hour per week and we are enjoying giving some time and support to our local community.



Our Head Pupils - Noah, Elena, Grace and Eric - stocking the fridges!



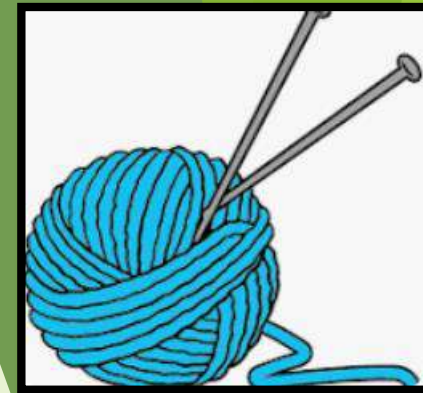
Our Year 6 Aspiration Councillors were the second leadership groups to volunteer, and we hope that many more of our pupils get an opportunity too!



Head Pupils - Grace and Eric - joined by Year 6 Aspiration Councillors - Kelsey and Rameen



Supporting our Community - A special act of kindness



We had a wonderful delivery a few weeks ago of 52 knitted scarves! One of our parents, Brock and Cery's Mum, has been very busy knitting these beautiful scarves to give to pupils and families who may benefit from them.

The vibrant colours of the scarves really brought a smile to our faces and we know that they will brighten this winter season for some of our pupils and their families too.

A **BIG** thank you to Kathy for thinking of our Dashwood pupils and for her perseverance with her marathon knitting spree!

Maybe you could learn to knit...we all need a scarf and bobble hat in the winter!



Attendance Matters!

We loved having a visit from the **Attendance Clock** this term! The Clock brought a smile to so many faces! It was great to see so many children with all the stickers from the week because they were arriving at school on time and ready to learn!



Remember, if you attend school above 97%, which is less than 6 days absence a year, you will have *excellent* attendance! Pupils who have excellent attendance almost certainly make the best progress in their learning which leads to better prospects for the future. So get into the habit of attending school regularly and be on time!

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors



On the week beginning the 13th November 2023 some of our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors recorded an assembly to share with the whole school to raise the profile of their anti-bullying campaigns. The ambassadors wanted to help all pupils in our school understand what bullying is, and what it isn't, and know ways in which they can get support should they ever need it.

Their assembly also focused on 'mean moments' and how these are not 'bullying' but where the pupils involved still need to be supported to help them stop. Here is what they shared:

'Mean Moments' V's Bullying

Sometimes we can say something 'mean' in the heat of the moment - we can call these 'mean moments'.

These are one-off's and we hopefully learn from them so they do not happen again or too often.

'Mean moments' are NOT 'bullying'. The most important thing is that we learn from mean moments so they are rare.



Our Ambassadors:

Year 6 Leads: Grace, Pola

Year 6: Naail, Rameen, Lacey, Nikita, Lexi D, Tilca, Sabrina, Rosie, Mya, Ella, Sofia

Year 5: Tomasz, Eesha-Bela, Riley



Winter Ball 2023



We kick-started Term 2 at Dashwood with our fantastic Winter Ball! It was great to see so many pupils join us for a boogie and fun with friends! There was a lovely atmosphere throughout both discos; pupils and adults were singing and dancing to well known songs. Lots of pupils won prizes for the different games and of course their moves on the dance floor. We have arranged for another Ball in the spring as everyone had such a nice time. Thank you for supporting our PTFA- all proceeds go back into the school for the pupils. Thank you to the PTFA and staff for running the event.



Report by Eco Warrior - Noah P

DON'T FORGET THE 3 R'S AT CHRISTMAS:
REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!

Mean of us will be celebrating Christmas and this often leads to the creation of a mountain of waste. Remember – be kind to our planet and REUSE< REDUCE< RECYCLE!

Here are some re-use and recycle tips for the festive season:

- Give eco-friendly gifts like reusable cups or a gift to a wildlife membership.
- Go for a walk during the Christmas season instead of a drive – enjoy our beautiful countryside.
- Avoid single-use plastic like straws, decorations and cutlery
- Consider the wrapping paper you use, be inventive with your recycling. Decorated brown paper, fabric or tote bags look great as present wrapping.
- Send recycled Christmas cards and then save any you receive to re-use as present tags, bookmarks or bunting. Recycle the remainder of the card in the blue bins. (Remove glitter/ribbons e.t.c)
- Keep your plastic sweetie tubs and take them along to the Tub2PUB recycle spots in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. <http://www.tub2pub.co.uk/tub2pub/>



- Use up uneaten food for stir fry/sandwiches or freeze if possible. Then use those silver recycling food bins for the leftovers.
- Leave the lids on your recycling bottles so these can also be included.
- Put your Christmas tree out for recycling on collection day (better still, have a potted tree that you can plant afterwards).
- Make your own crackers using kitchen roll tubes and home-made gifts.

Top Tip:

Keep your wrapping paper to reuse next year if it cannot be recycled.

[If it won't stay scrunched in a ball, it cannot be recycled]

Thank you for all of your eco-contributions to saving our environment during 2023. Let's keep it going into the new year.

Have a great Christmas from everyone in the Eco Warriors team.

ECO WARRIORS:

OUR PLANET MATTERS

Knit and Natter at The Ridings Care Home

Our Dashwood Knitting Club group visited The Ridings Care Home for a 'Knit and Natter' morning. It was such a lovely occasion to share together, with the residents and carers helping our pupils to knit more confidently. The residents and our pupils loved chatting together. Thank you to The Ridings for inviting us and to Miss Mitchell for teaching the group to knit in her after school club! It was wonderful for two different generations to come together and there were a lot of smiles and laughter from all.



Eesha-Bela's knitting!



Exchanging Christmas Tree Decorations With The Ridings residents

We had a wonderful visit from some of the residents at The Ridings who came to deliver Christmas decorations that they had made for us! We also exchanged decorations that the pupils had made for their tree too!



Some of our pupils also visited The Ridings to sing Christmas songs getting everyone in the festive spirit!



Getting in the festive spirit!

All the pupils at Dashwood have been getting into the festive spirit decorating their classroom windows and making Christmas crafts. It has been such a joy to see all the creativity which has brought a smile to all of our faces! Karen and Lyn, our lovely canteen ladies, judged the windows and decided on the winners for each Key Stage!

Window
decorating



Winners!
Pear and Pear Class

Year 1 Holly Class



Year 1 Hazel Class



Winners!
Year 2
Redwood

Year 2
Maple



Year 3 Ash



Year 3 Silver Birch



Year 4 Rowan and Aspen



Year 6 Oak



Winners!
Year 5
Sycamore



Year 5
Beech



Year 6 Chestnut



Soren achieves first place and wins gold!

Before half term, Soren Stacey took part in a dance competition in Coventry.

He did a character solo, where he danced as a cheeky garden gnome. He came in first place and won himself a gold medal!

Soren dances ballet, tap and modern with the Susan Taylor Dance Academy, and will be completing exams in modern and ballet over the next few weeks.

Well done Soren! What an achievement!

If you would like to learn to dance like Soren, you could contact the Susan Taylor Dance Academy on:

[01295 250598](tel:01295250598)



Holly also dances at the Susan Taylor Dance Academy and shares her experiences...



On two Sundays this term, I took my tap and ballet exams. Before the exams, I had bad butterflies because I was nervous. After the exams, I felt really good that I had done them and pleased with myself. I tried my best and was really happy to get a distinction in my tap exam, and my ballet exam too! The examiner was a nice man.

Well done Holly on your achievements and for working so hard towards them!



Jensen has Gone Fishing!

Jensen (Year 3) tells us...

WHY I LOVE FISHING

by Jensen Smith

It all started when I was very little, my mum would take me to see my dad fishing and he would sit me on his box with him and let me have a go, I WAS HOOKED.

Fishing in my family goes right back past, my Great Great Grandad. my Grampy still goes so sometimes i go with him too.

What I really like about fishing is not just catching fish but I get to see lots of wildlife too like lots of different birds (my favorite being the Kingfisher in his beautiful blue and orange colours), mink, mice, rabbits even horses and cows. Sometimes we even camp on the bank and that is called night fishing which is lots of fun.

Even though I am still learning I have already caught lots of fish (the most I have caught in one day is 337) of different species.

So far I have caught Roach, Rudd, Chub, Perch, Carp, Bream, Tench, a Catfish and my Favorite of all Pike my biggest so far being 16lb2oz.

I think everyone should have a go fishing you never know you might even like it.





Excitement
Fun and
Motivation



If you want to
learn more
about fishing,
have a chat to
Jensen!



Former Dashwood pupil, Arthur Smith, let's us know how is getting on at Cheer!

A boy who does cheer

Hi, I am Arthur Smith. You might remember me from Year 6 last year when Tulisa and I did Dashwood's got Talent. We performed some tricks and the crowd went wild! For my first competition of the season, I was really nervous because it was my first international competition, but when my team and I hit the floor, I was straight back in my comfort zone and full of energy and confidence!

Arthur!



The Performance

The Performance and our team were amazing! We had no falls or wobbles and everyone was happy with how we did. At the end of all of the performances, it was in the hands of the judges.

Judges Decision

After what seemed like an eternity watching all the other teams from all over Europe perform, it was time for us to take our place on the mat ready for our awards. The judges started telling everyone the results and giving out trophies, medals and banners. Then the judges got to our division and we were all nervous as the judges counted back the places and it all got very exciting! The judges then announced that we had come in second place and not only that, we had won a bid to compete in Tampa, Florida next April 2024. The entire team was ecstatic!

The rest of the season

As a team, we now have the rest of the season to work on and fundraise for our trip to Florida.

GO TEAM JOYFUL!



And an amazing update...

Last Saturday, Arthur competed at another competition at Stoneleigh Park with his team 'Joyful'.

They managed to go one better and came first in their division and were judged Grand Champions of the day meaning that they had the best overall score. That was not the only amazing achievement; at 8.50pm on Sunday, it was announced that the team had won a second bid - this time to All Stars World which mean Arthur and the team will now be competing in two different competitions in Florida, America!

Congratulations to Arthur and the Joyful Team!



Would you like to have a go at Cheer?
Here is where Arthur has learned all
of his skills! Find out more:

Vibes Fitness and Cheer

Banbury, Oxfordshire, England, United Kingdom

info@vibesfitnessandcheer.co.uk

INSTAGRAM - @vibescheerleadingteam

FACEBOOK - @vibesfitnessandcheer

Opening Hours

Monday 4.30-9.00pm

Tuesday 4.30-8.00pm

Wednesday 4.30-9.00pm

Thursday 4.30-6.30pm

Friday 4.30-8.30pm

Saturday 9.00-12.00pm

Sunday CLOSED



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Unit 8, Riverisde Business Park, Tramway Road, Banbury

Jonah's Creative Writing

Jonah Stevenson (Holly Class) has been writing stories, poems and songs in his own time.

He recently wrote this story for Halloween.

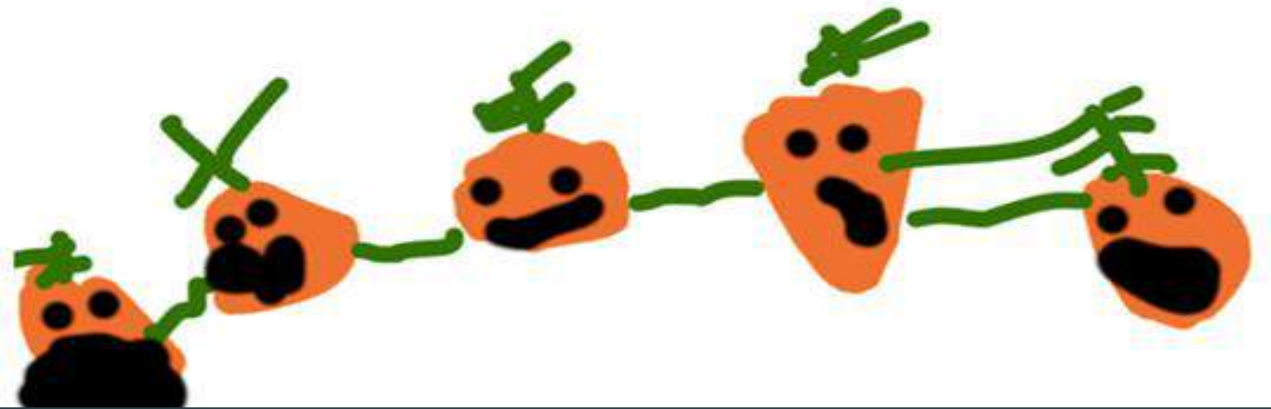
Thank you for sharing your creativity Jonah!



Jonah Stevenson (Holly Class) has been writing stories, poems and songs in his own time. He recently wrote this story for Halloween.

Pumpkin Picking in a Haunted House By Jonah Stevenson

Once upon a time, I went out
Pumpkin picking in a haunted house!
I saw something white and scary, it was a ghost and it did shout...
Pumpkin picking in a haunted house!
Next I saw a skeleton, what's it all about?
Pumpkin picking in a haunted house!
Next I saw a rat and a mouse
Pumpkin picking in a haunted house!
The rat and the mouse were eating a skeleton, wow!
Pumpkin picking in a haunted house!
I fell down the stairs and I said "Ouch!"
Pumpkin picking in a haunted house!
I went to the dungeon and I saw a vampire, what was it all about?
Pumpkin picking in a haunted house!
And everyone said "Trick or treat!"



==--==  **!SANTA FUN!**  ==--==

December has been a month of Santa Fun so far!

I took part in the Santa Fun Run in aid of Katherine House Hospice. It was a VERY wet Sunday morning when I, and several hundred other Santas, started the warm up and then the run. I managed to complete the 5k run in my fastest time yet [despite the very slippy, sludgy mud] so was very pleased. Not only did I raise money for KHH but also had a lot of fun...even though it took a while to get warmed up and dry!



Next, it was the Round Table Santa Tractor around South



Grimsbury. As has become traditional, I joined my scout group, 1st Grimsbury, to walk around our local community raising money for the many charities supported by the Round Table. Grimsbury community was very welcoming, we raised lots of

money and were even given sweets along the way as well as many pots of change that people had been saving up all year!



**A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAMILIES THAT
CAME OUT TO SUPPORT US!**

Gardening Club...sharing a lovely sessions with parents, carers and family!



For our final session of Gardening Club for this term, we celebrated all of our successes with a smore and hot chocolate around the campfire. It was so lovely to be joined by so many families and the children loved toasting marshmallows for their loved ones! Spending time with family, especially in the fresh air, is great for all of our mental wellbeing and a great time was had by all! Thank you to everyone who came and joined us for this happy event!



Nursery - Cherry Class

Cherry class have learned all about the weather this term. They have explored different types of weather and all of the colours in a rainbow.

The children also talked about firework celebrations at the start of the term.

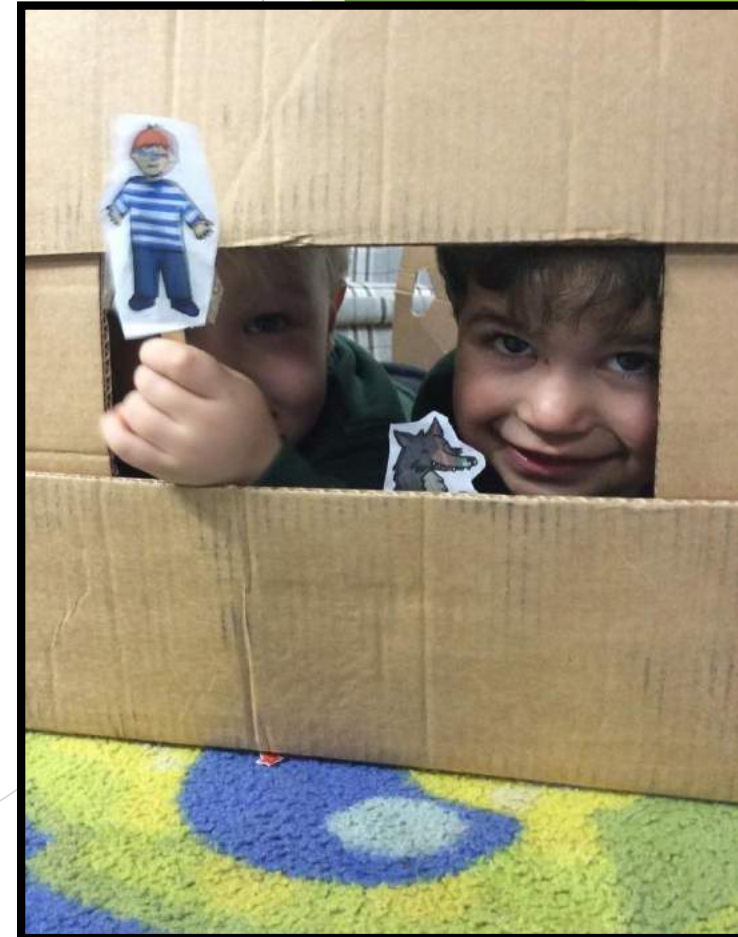
The children have also been continuing with their topic of weather. Alongside this they have been practicing to develop their fine motor skills using scissors. They are going to be using these new skills to create some festive snowflakes!



Nursery - Plum Class

Plum class made their own puppets based on familiar story characters from class. They had fun using them to create puppet shows to retell stories or innovating their own story ideas using story language they had learnt.

Plum class have been continuing their work on celebrations and festivals. They have decorated Diyas for Diwali and learned about the significance of poppies on Remembrance Day. During their Forest School sessions, pupils have been using natural items to create the initial letter of their name.



Reception

This term, Reception children have been taking inspiration from Bonfire night to create some firework art and tasty treats! They have also learnt about how to keep themselves and others safe around fireworks, bonfires and sparklers.

The pupils have been exploring rhyming words and poetry, having fun creating rhyming strings and building up their vocabulary by using their sense to describe the different sounds fireworks make.

The pupils in Peach and Pear class have also began preparing for the upcoming celebration of Diwali!

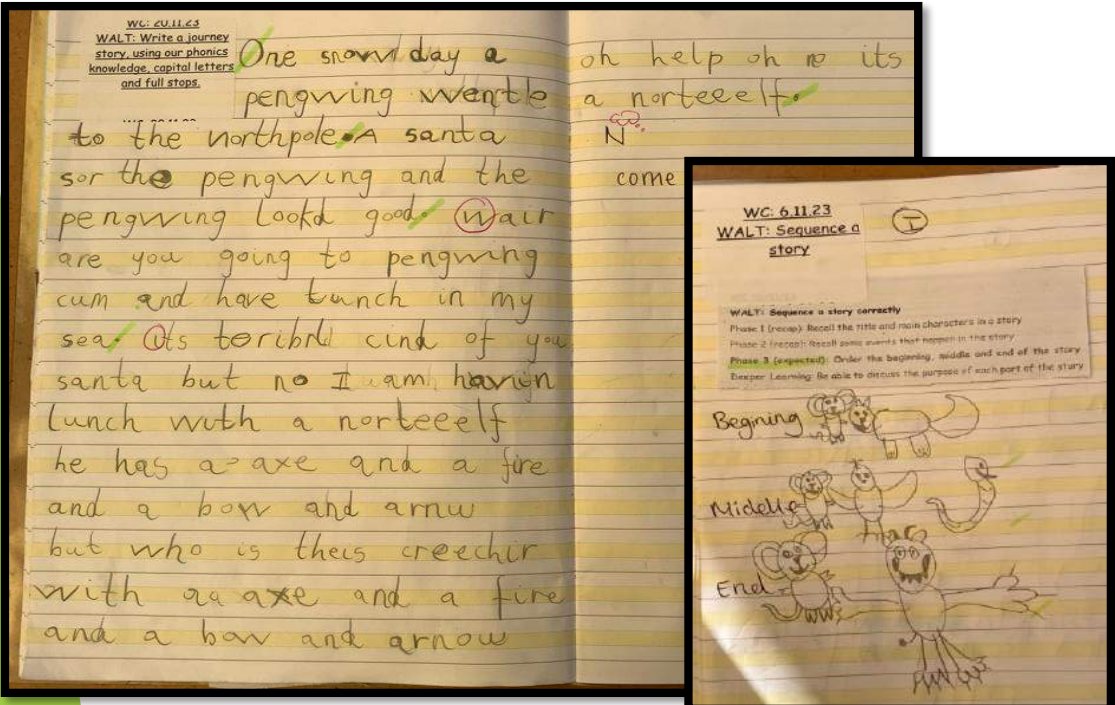


Year 1

Year 1 have had an exciting Term 2!

In Literacy, they learned how to use adjectives to describe characters in our story The Gruffalo. This is an important skill that will help make our writing more exciting!

They also learnt about The Great Fire of London and especially enjoyed learning the song London's Burning! They learned how the fire started and the impact it had on different people. Cara (Year 1) told the DBA News, 'I love adding with counters in my learning! I love reading our class novel and I love writing stories!' Martyna also told us 'I like learning phonics. I am learning 'ear' as in 'hear' at the moment!'

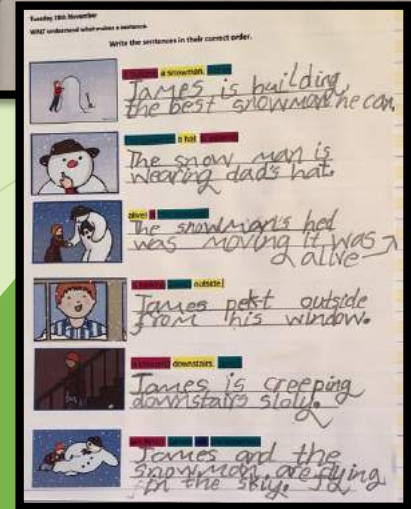
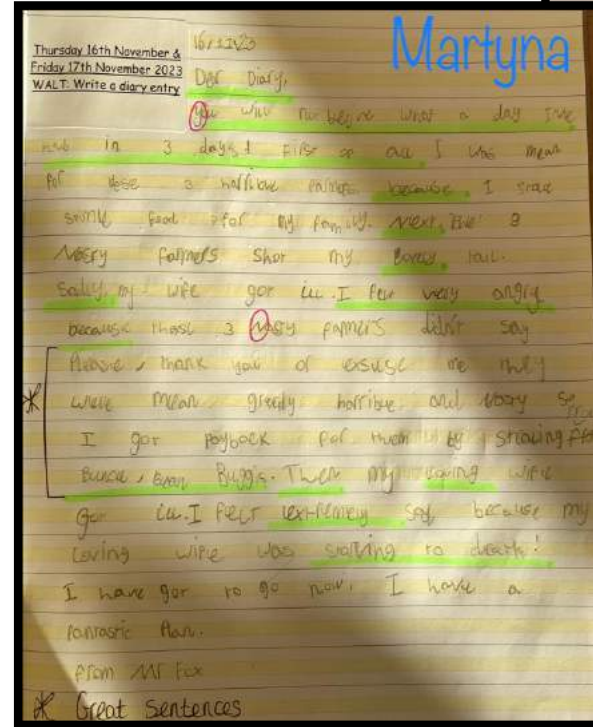
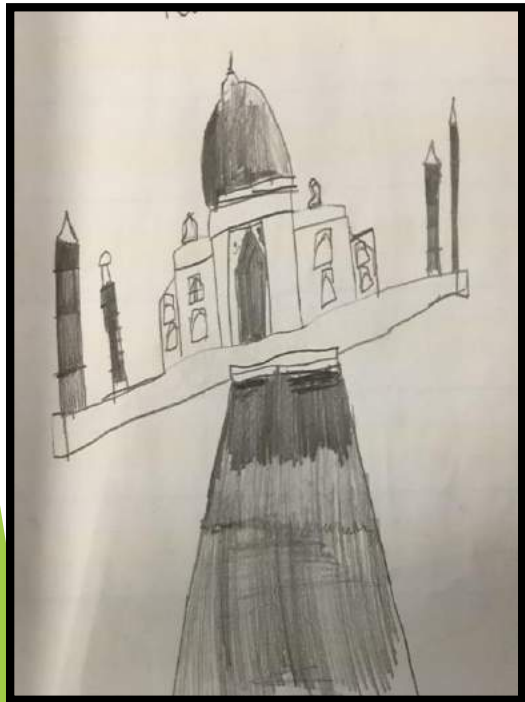


Year 2

Year 2 have been reading Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl. The children have been really engaged in the story and have used a range of adjectives and adverbs to describe Mr Fox himself!

As part of their India topic, Year 2 drew the Taj Mahal in their art sessions focusing on shading. Have a look at some of our amazing drawings! The pupils even tried some Indian food and made comparisons to the food that they would normally eat. Hibah told the DBA News that the Samosas were her favourite!

In PE, pupils in Redwood and Maple also learnt some Bollywood dancing!



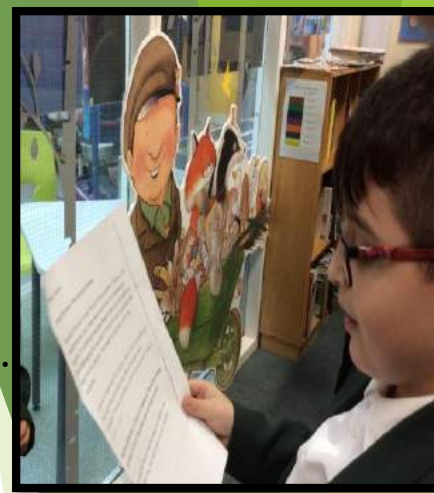
Year 3

Year 3 have really enjoyed finding out about King George VI this term. They have wowed us with the existing knowledge they acquired through their homework which they then added to in class. We have found out about what made him such a successful and popular king at the time, including how he led Britain through the war years as well as how he overcame his debilitating stutter to address the nation. The children looked at leadership qualities, their definitions and found out how they linked to King George VI. Once complete, the children considered the leadership qualities they have and how they're shown in school. A thoroughly engaging unit of learning about an inspiring role model from the past.

Cataleya, Year 3, is really enjoying leaning her times tables at the moment. We are reading *Leon and the place between* at the moment which is a great book to learn from!

Laura told the DBA News: 'I am really enjoying literacy and I am getting really good at my times tables too!'

Year 3 have also been working so hard this term in their Literacy lessons. They became ambassadors of change for Dashwood school and have worked hard to persuade Mrs Gordon-Weeks to revamp the lunchtime activity rota, making it fun and exciting as well as developing skills and friendships even further. The children took their original ideas and developed them into clear, concise paragraphs and used formal, persuasive language to write their effective speeches. After a discussion about presentation skills, the children practiced their speeches and a few children presented to Mrs Gordon-Weeks. They were a little nervous (which is normal) but did a brilliant job. We were delighted to receive an email this week congratulating the children on their fantastic vocabulary and presentations. The children are now very much looking forward to all the exciting opportunities for lunchtimes which will cater to many skills and interests. Well done Year 3!



Year 4

Year 4 have been learning all about King John and analyzing whether he was a good or bad King and why. We have also looked at the Magna Carta which was introduced in medieval times. From this, we created our own Magna Carta's and wrote them on scrolls for display!

In Literacy, we have immersed ourselves in Haiku poetry. We have been writing poems with a range of themes including Remembrance.

Also this term we are continuing with our addition and subtraction unit, focusing on using column methods with more than one exchange.

Charlie told us: 'I really enjoyed making the clay models; it was fun and very messy!'

Guransh: 'I enjoyed creating the soap model because it was fun and I was very soapy afterwards!'

Year 4 have been showing their creative flare over the past few weeks. In their art sessions, the pupils have focused on sculpture through researching and comparing the work of Barbara Hepworth and Alberto Giacometti. They then created their own sculptures through exploring the themes in their work. Year 4 were very excited to use different mediums including soap, foil and clay, to create unique sculptures based upon emotions. They are looking forward to exploring their computing skills to create an IMovie to present their outcomes!



Remembrance Haiku

Honour our soldiers war,
Remembrance of Sunday,
Respect poppy day.

Remembrance day,
Soldiers sacrificed their lives,
Poppy day Sunday.



Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic start to Term 2! We are really enjoying learning about Queen Victoria as part of our new topic on The Victorians and we are all looking forward to our upcoming trip to the Black Country Living Museum.

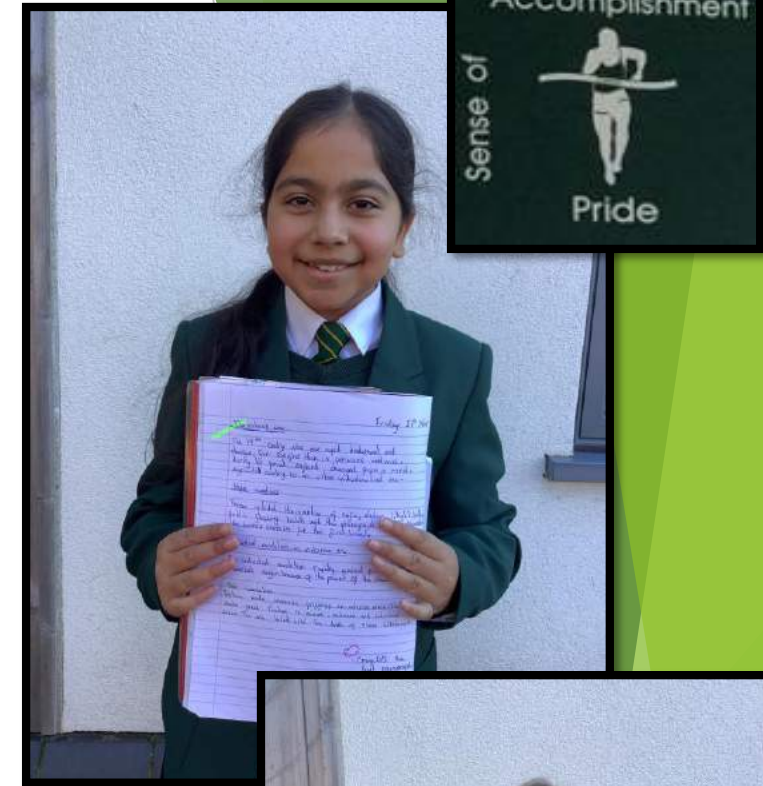
Our focus of poetry in literacy has seen the children be really creative with their writing ideas and explore figurative language. Multiplication and division is our new maths topic, the children are working hard on using their skills to problem solve and reason.

Throughout this term, all of the children will complete a sewing project. The first couple of groups have been enjoying creating a Christmas decoration to bring home at the end of term.

Here is what some of the Year 5 pupils have enjoyed this term:

Tomasz: 'I have enjoyed Maths - prime, square and cube numbers!'

Mia: 'I have enjoyed our reading lessons this term and answering questions based on the text that we have been learning!'



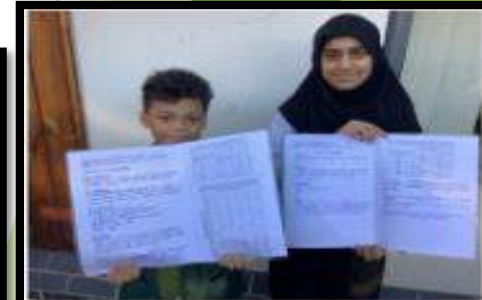
Year 6

Year 6 have particularly enjoyed the history unit where we have been learning all about Tudor monarchs, Sir Francis Drake and the Spanish Armada. As part of this unit we have written a formal letter in response to Elizabeth I detailing the voyage of Sir Francis Drake's circumnavigation of the world.

In maths, Year 6 have been working hard on fractions including simplifying, comparing and adding and subtracting. For fractions, it is important to know all of our times tables and division facts so please continue practicing these at home.

Amber and Lacey told the DBA News that they had been learning all about Sir Francis Drake and Queen Elizabeth I. Our Poetry unit was fun too! In PE, handball and gymnastics have been great and in Art, we have been learning all about the artist Leonardo da Vinci and his famous artworks. We have been inspired to learn how to draw portraits!

Year 6 have also had an amazing time learning all about light and experimenting with shadows in science. They planned and carried out our own experiments to test how shadows change depending on an object's distance from a light source. They then plotted their results on to line graphs and drew conclusions from our findings. In history, they have been comparing the reigns of Elizabeth I and Mary I. They have considered what they each achieved in their reigns and have written their own discussion texts to decide on who they felt was the more successful Tudor monarch. Oak and Chestnut pupils are now moving on to our art unit to finish out the term and have begun learning all about the life of Leonardo da Vinci and his famous works.



Trips, events and visits...

Thank you to pupils who write in to tell us about their experiences on school trips, the events we hold in school and any visits they go on! It is great to share these with other pupils so please feel free to write in and tell about your adventures!
Email: *office@dashwood-aspirations.org*

Let's find out what Year 5 and Year 6 got up to on their recent trips...

Turn over to find out more!



Black Country Museum - Year 5

Linked to their Victorian history topic, Year 5 visited the Black Country Museum in Birmingham where you can see history brought to life and meet historic characters!

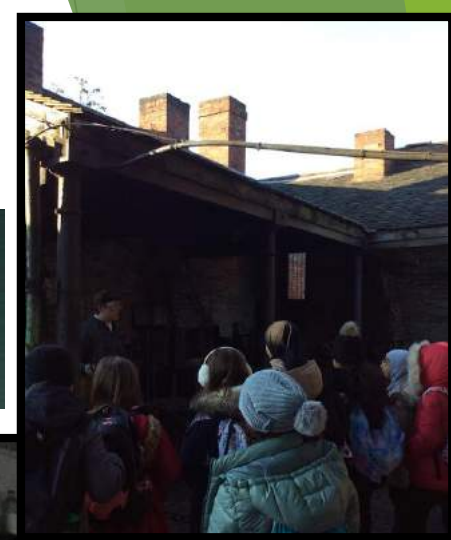
When they arrived at the Black Country Museum, they were immediately transported into the 1900's. They entered a Victorian Shop and were amazed at the amazing items on sale - they even had Cadbury's Chocolate back then!

It was also really cool to meet the Victorian characters and we went to 'Harry's House' - a Victorian character. They met his family and even saw the belt that was used to punish him if he was naughty (Year 5 were glad not to live in the 1900's!).

Last but not least, Year 5 actually got to feel what it was like to be a Victorian child in a Victorian school. They went to class and learned how to behave as was expected in those times! Thankfully no one got punished!

All the pupils had a great time at the Black Country Museum. They hope that you will enjoy it too when you are a Year 5 pupil! Here is what they loved about it:

- ▶ Mia: 'I found it very fun on our trip to The Black Country Museum because we got to go to a Victorian School! I visited the 'poorhouse' - it was cold and would not have been nice to spend your time in at all!'
- ▶ Ieoyssa: 'My favourite part of our trip was when I got to go to the 'rich house'. However it was small and not very spacious like you would imagine it to be!'
- ▶ Maja: 'My favourite part of the trip was when we went to the coal mine and on an olden day bus!'
- ▶ Hanna: 'I loved it when we had to go to lots of different shop from the Victorian Era to find things that a Victorian person would have actually used.'



ROCK UK 2023- The Year 6 Residential

Back in October, Year 6 went on their residential to Rock UK in Northampton

We travelled by coach to the centre in Irthlingborough; we were so excited. Our rooms were in Oak Lodge and Willow Lodge. We made our beds and then had lunch before heading off to our first activities of the trip! The activities that we experienced when we were there, were archery, high-ropes, canoeing, raft-building, Walk-The-Plank, Adventure Pits and the Zipline. My favourite was the Adventure Pit!

On the first night, we went to the cinema and had a movie night and on the second night, we visited the sportshall. We spent lots of time outside and enjoyed playing football together! We all had such an amazing time!

Amber (Year 6)



#muddy!



Sporting News

Hockey Competition

Two teams of Year 5 and 6 pupils attended a hockey festival this week to represent Dashwood and compete against other schools. The intent of the festival was to develop sport specific skills and to support individual development in sport.

The two Dashwood teams had lots of fun learning a new sport and did amazing, finishing third in their groups and tied with each other for fifth overall!

Four pupils received additional certificates for standing out during the event by showing the school games value of self-belief through not giving up and helping to motivate their teams.



Sporting News

Orienteering Competition

A group of Year 5 and 6 pupils represented Dashwood at the orienteering festival event held at Wykham Park Academy on Thursday 23rd November. They had a great time following the clues to find locations with the support of some secondary school sports leaders. The event promoted the importance of collaboration - working together as a team.

Well done to all of the teams on a enjoyable event!



Do you play for a sporting club outside of school? Why not tell the DBA News all about it and inspire others to give sport a try?!



Charlotte swims 1600m!

Congratulations to Charlotte, Year 5, who has achieved her 1600m this week! That is 1 mile of swimming - 64 whole lengths of the 25m Spiceball swimming pool!

Huge congratulations to Charlotte on her achievement!

Charlotte has become such a competent swimmer because she has been gaining confidence in the water since she was 5 years old. Charlotte is now in the Silver and Gold Challenge group which means she now has to swim long distances and learn life-saving!

It just goes to show how much you can achieve if you practice swimming regularly from a young age!



Our very own Mrs Galloway has been raising money for charity!

Mrs Galloway participated in a sponsored cycle organised by Banbury United for Children In Need!

Cycling 14km in only 35 minutes, Mrs Galloway was the speediest cyclist of all the women who participated! She also won the fastest 1K speed cycle with a speedy time of 1 minute 20 seconds!

The Banbury United Cycle-a-thon raised a huge £1,158 for Children In Need! Well done to Mrs Galloway and all involved!



SPRINT FINISH LEADERBOARD

BELLA BOYLES	1:13
OLLIE PHIPPS	1:15
MARK JONES	1:17
LAWSON D'ATH	1:18
Leema Galloway	1:20
CLARE Galloway	1:21
Sindy MATTHEWS	1:24
Ruth Dunbar	1:28
ZOE PUGH	1:29
LISA OXLEY	1:30
FINN TAPP	1:31
MARK ALLITT	1:35
CLAIRE DUNBAR	1:35
DAVID SIMON	1:35

Why play football?

Regan (Year 5) tells us why she loves to play football...

'I love to play football because I love to run around and have fun with my friends.'

Lucy (Year 5) also loves to play football because it helps her to stay fit and healthy. Training and playing football means that she gets lots of exercise which makes her happy!

Why don't you find out about playing a sport? It is really good for your physical and mental health and also your sense of belonging!



Eesha-Bela, Hanna, Roseann and Charlotte tell our DBA News reporter, Lucy (also a Brownie), why they love Brownies...

Charlotte: I love Brownies because every week we get to make new things and discover new things that I do not know yet!

Eesha-Bela: I enjoy Brownies because we get to do baking and get to camp at Pack holidays!

Roseann: At Brownies I get to learn new things and I can identify bugs!

Hanna: I love Brownies because we do lots of fun things, expand our curriculum and make new friends!

Lucy: I love Brownies because I can play with my friends and experience new things!



Lucy, Hanna, Roseann, Charlotte and Eesha-Bela - Year 5 - are all Brownies



Dashwood's Recipe Corner

Easy Mince Pies for kids

Makes 24, takes 45 minutes + 15 minutes baking

Ingredients:

375g (3 cups) plain flour

260g (1 1/6 cups) unsalted butter, softened

125g (1 cup + 2 tbsp) caster sugar, plus extra for sprinkling

1 large egg, plus 1 beaten egg for glazing

800g jar mincemeat

What You Need to Do:

Make sure you have an adult to help you!

Weigh the flour (375g) out and put it in a large mixing bowl.

Measure the butter (260g) and cut into small pieces before adding to your bowl.

Measure the sugar (125g) and add to the bowl. Crack the egg into the bowl.

Mix everything until it's coming together then tip out onto a lightly floured surface. Fold until the pastry comes together - try not to over mix, as soon as it happily forms a ball you're done. Wrap the pastry up in cling film and pop it in the fridge for 15+ minutes or so.

Make sure an adult is close by here! Pre-heat your oven to 220C / 200C fan / 425F and grease a muffin tray (we just a spray of oil).

MAKE YOUR MINCE PIES

Lightly flour your work surface then roll the pastry out to 3mm thick.



When you're rolling it out, be sure to turn it 90 degrees between turns - it helps to stop it sticking to your work surface, and also ensures you get an even thickness. If you need to add a little extra flour underneath when you turn it. When it gets a bit bigger, roll it round your rolling pin before rotating it to stop it tearing.



Easy Mince Pies for kids...continued

Use a round cutter (about 10cm) to cut out 24 bases and place them gently into muffin trays. To get the pastry right down into the base of each tin hole, use a little bit of rolled up pastry. This will push it down, without poking a hole in it.

Put a tablespoon or so of mincemeat into each base.



Re-roll the pastry and either use another round cutter to cut some lids (7cm) or if you have stars, use them.

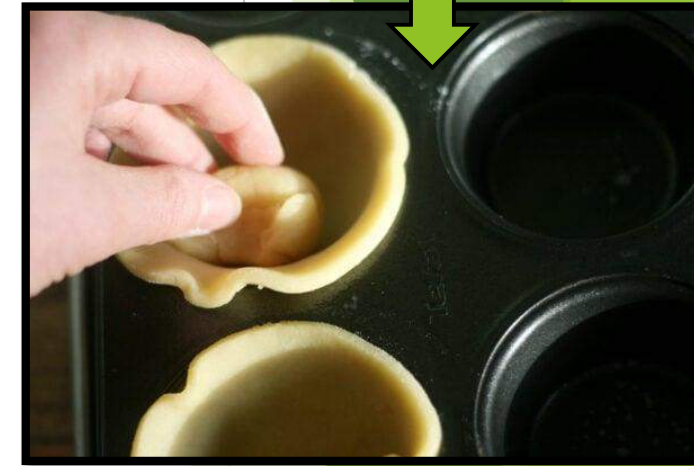
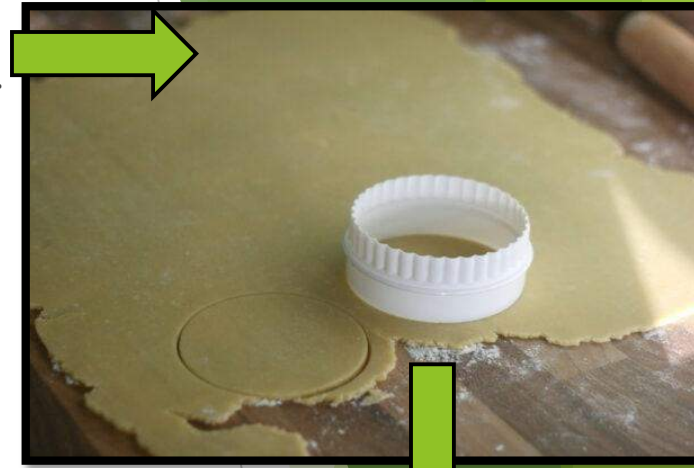
Crack an egg into a small dish. If you are using a full lid brush the edges of your mince pies with a little egg before placing the lids on and pressing them down to seal. You don't need to worry about the egg at this point if you are using stars.

Use the egg to glaze the tops of the mince pies. If you are using a full lid, cut little slits in the middle.

Bake them for 15-20 minutes.

They're ready when they are golden brown and bubbling.

When cooled, ENJOY!



Samuel's Sumptuous Banana and chocolate chip cookies

Samuel, Year 5, kindly shared this delicious recipe with us...definitely one to try at home!

INGREDIENTS

- 1 very ripe banana
- 150g whole rolled oats
- 6 medjool dates, pitted and roughly chopped
- 50ml olive oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 courgette grated
- 60g chocolate chips (optional, for topping)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees Celsius (make sure an adult helps you with this bit).
2. Grease two baking trays with olive oil.
3. Place the banana and dates in a food processor along with the olive oil, half of the oats and vanilla. Blitz for approximately one minute until you have a paste.
4. Squeeze the grated courgette in a clean cloth to remove the excess moisture before placing in a mixing bowl along with the chocolate chips, remaining oats and the contents of the food processor mixture.
5. Stir well to combine to a thick mix.
6. Spoon the mixture on to the baking trays using a dessert spoon to make approximately 18 cookies and gently smooth into flat rounds.
7. Place in the oven and bake for 25-30 minutes until golden brown on the outside. Transfer to a wire rack and leave to cool completely.



Festive Crafts

If you start with colored craft sticks, this quick project doesn't require any messy paint or markers. Parents should hot glue Christmas tree triangles together, and kids can add flair with glitter, pom poms, and mini jingle bells. Make a whole set to display as homemade decor; these popsicle stick Christmas trees look darling strung together in a homemade garland.

Noah P's Riddle:

What has a bed but cannot sleep? What has a mouth but cannot eat? What runs but cannot walk?

Answer: A river



Carols	Green	Red	Santa	Tree
Elves	Nativity	Reindeer	Snow	Wreath
Frosty	Presents	Rudolph	Stocking	



R	U	D	O	L	P	H	T	P	Q	B
L	P	Z	R	Q	C	Q	O	Y	Q	R
P	K	W	Z	C	R	N	G	M	E	Y
P	V	R	S	E	U	E	G	E	T	Y
R	F	E	N	W	Y	N	D	I	T	S
E	I	A	O	Y	I	N	V	S	L	E
S	T	T	W	K	I	I	O	O	E	G
E	H	H	C	E	T	R	R	R	Y	R
N	X	O	R	A	F	A	T	H	Z	E
T	T	X	N	U	C	S	H	S	J	E
S	A	N	T	A	E	L	V	E	S	N

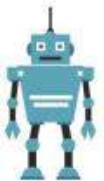


Can you think of any other festive words?
Write them here!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wordsearch

Search for the words going up, down, left and right.



T	U	K	E	B	S	N	Y	Y	V	G	I	I	O	X
L	D	P	Y	O	O	V	F	Q	S	N	O	G	N	U
U	S	G	N	I	T	E	E	R	G	I	W	Q	Z	B
J	D	X	D	E	J	O	W	E	I	L	L	T	K	R
J	J	O	B	E	K	T	O	D	N	O	W	N	E	Q
Q	U	S	R	R	N	E	B	D	G	R	R	E	C	K
Q	S	A	N	T	A	L	R	M	E	A	E	M	X	V
P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	X	R	C	A	A	I	Y
I	Z	M	J	X	F	S	F	U	B	M	T	N	Y	U
J	E	D	Q	T	E	I	Z	B	R	C	H	R	M	L
X	B	D	N	R	L	M	M	C	E	K	V	O	K	E
M	L	M	X	S	T	R	M	F	A	X	N	I	Q	T
M	S	Z	Z	E	Q	S	W	U	D	N	D	L	Q	I
H	I	H	A	N	U	T	C	R	A	C	K	E	R	D
V	R	F	A	B	K	W	T	S	E	V	L	E	N	E

YULETIDE
GREETINGS
CAROLING
PRESENTS

WREATH
NUTCRACKER
TREE
MISTLETOE





SANTA
GINGERBREAD
ORNAMENT
ELVES























womanofmanyroles.com

Use the code below to find the answers to the Christmas jokes!



a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
									

k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t
									

u	v	w	x	y	z	!	?	"	-
									

1. What happens if you eat Christmas decorations?



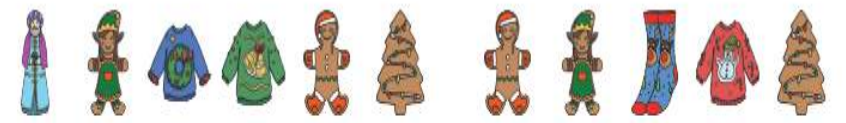
2. What do you call Santa when he stops moving?



3. What does an elf study in school?



4. What is every parent's favourite Christmas carol?



5. What kind of music do elves like?



6. What do you get when you cross an iPhone with a Christmas tree?

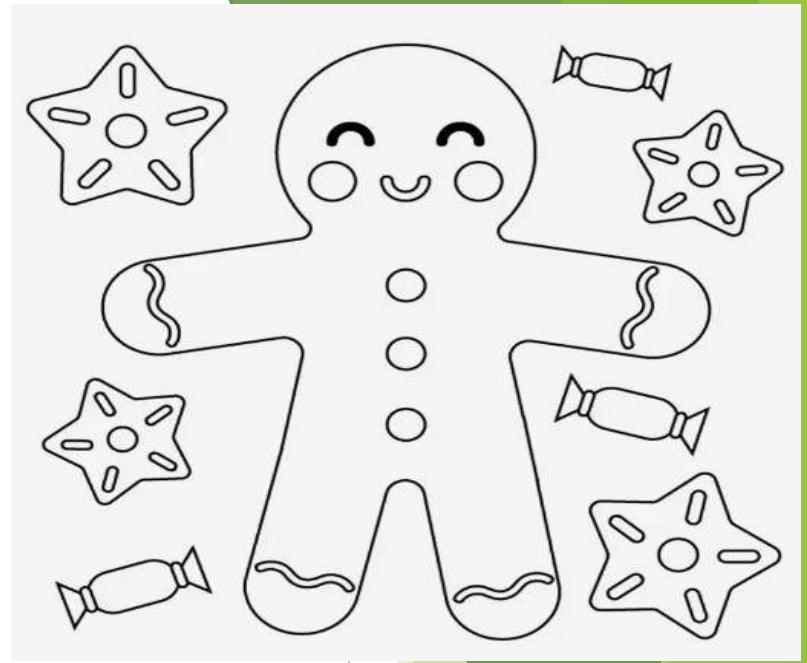


7. How do reindeers know when it's Christmas?





HAPPY *
* *Holidays* *




Festive Colouring





Festive Colouring

Festive Jokes



What do you call a cat sitting on the beach on Christmas Eve?

Sandy Claws.



Why did the Christmas tree go to the barber?

It needed to be trimmed.



What is an elf's most reliable website?
Elf-azon!

Why does everyone love Frosty the Snowman?

He's cool.



What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

Snowflakes.



What does an elf work on after school?


His gnomework.



DBA News needs you!

Thank you so much to all those who have written and sent in an articles for one of our DBA Newspapers! We love hearing from you and sharing your news!

- ❖ Have you got a news story for us?
- ❖ A recipe that you want to share and inspire others?
- ❖ Do you know someone with an interesting career that you can interview to inspire others?
- ❖ Do you want to write an article to share with us all?
- ❖ Any photos of family or religious celebrations? We would love to see and share them!
- ❖ Is there something we could share that is happening in our local community?
- ❖ Would you like to report on a recent class trip?
- ❖ Would you like to share a photo and write up about your pet and how you care for them?
- ❖ Any jokes to make us giggle?
- ❖ Got a good book review to share and inspire others?
- ❖ Competition ideas?
- ❖ Do you go to a club or are a member of a team or group and would like to share your talent?
- ❖ Have you got some thing to share that you are proud of?



Wishing all of our pupils, staff and families a very happy and restful festive break!

If the answer is 'YES!', pop your idea, your story/article on a piece of paper and hand it to either Amber Hardcastle (Year 6) - or Miss Gooch, or email it to the school office for the attention of Miss Gooch office@dashwood-aspirations.org

We would love to hear from you!